GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:122
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005
KILLING OF MARINE ANIMALS
Ramadass Prof. M

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a plan to set up mobile squads to protect coral reefs and coastal biodiversity from coral-mining mafia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take steps to stop the killing of marine animals in the Gulf of Mannar; and

(d) if so, the details of such measures?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) Measures to protect coral reefs and coastal biodiversity are taken up by the respective states. The Government of India has no plan to set up mobile squads to protect coral reefs and coastal biodiversity from coral-mining mafia.

(c) & (d) As reported by the State Government of Tamilnadu 67 Eco-development Committees comprising of 67 villages have been formed in Gulf of Mannar to solicit public participation. Regular patrolling is being carried out in and around island groups to prevent coral mining and poaching.